

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN

May 17, 2022

AND HILDA L. SOLIS

Five-Signature Letter Supporting Restoration of In-Home Support Services Public Authority Consumer Advisory Committees and Governing Boards

The In-Home Support Services (IHSS) Public Authority (PA) was established to address the challenges individuals were facing in simply finding providers and reports of horrendous conditions in the delivery of IHSS where consumers were “unsafe in their own homes” according to a 1991 Little Hoover Commission report. In response, the Legislature required counties to establish an IHSS PA to include a Consumer Advisory Committee or Governing Board. Legislative mandates also set the PA as the employer of record for IHSS providers, established a registry for consumers and providers to find each other, and provided information on training for consumers and providers. Fundamental to the original PA legislation was the consumer role in the oversight of the delivery of IHSS. Consumer Advisory Committees or Governing Board were required to be made up of at least 51% current or past personal assistance users and include advocates, as well as other organizations serving people who utilize IHSS. These committees were charged with giving input and recommendations to any entity that had influence or authority over

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IHSS at the county, state, or federal level.

During the budget crisis in 2011, the requirement for counties to maintain these committees became optional and funding was significantly reduced from \$56,000 to \$6,000 a year. This funding was never restored and since then, consumer input on IHSS policies and practices has been severely limited. This deficit has also reduced information, accessibility and the opportunity to provide valuable input throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has disproportionately impacted vulnerable IHSS populations. Furthermore, thousands of seniors and people with disabilities who have been approved the service cannot find an IHSS provider due to the current provider shortage. Los Angeles County (County) should help to support the full restoration of the original funding for IHSS PA Consumer Advisory Committees and Governing Boards. These funds would be administered by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and divided equally among California's 58 counties to enable these Advisory Committees and Governing Boards to provide much-needed oversight and recommendations on the delivery of IHSS to the over 600,000 seniors and people with disabilities they serve.

WE I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer through the Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Branch, to send a five-signature letter to Assembly Member Joaquin Arambula with a copy to the Assembly Budget Committee, and the County's State Legislative Delegation to support the full restoration of the funding for IHSS PA Consumer Advisory Committees and Governing Boards.

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JH:mk/nh